

# EAST FORK FIRE

## FIRE INFORMATION FACT SHEET

**Date:** August 28, 2012

**Time:** 11:30 a.m.

**Information Officer:** Kathy Bushnell, 406-422-7164

**Incident:** East Fork Fire

**Detected/Reported:** August 22, 2012

**Cause:** Lightning

**Location:** T16N, R10W, Section 36, approximately one mile inside the southern boundary of the Scapegoat Wilderness on the Helena National Forest-Lincoln Ranger District

**Incident Commander:** Jarel Kurtz

**Approximate Size:** 30 acres

### Fire Update:

There remains active fire behavior with surface burning and some isolated tree torching, all of which is still within the boundary of the Scapegoat Wilderness in contiguous sub-alpine fir and dense, dead timber stands. The strategy remains to safely manage this fire for suppression within the Wilderness boundary, primarily containing the southern flank and preventing further spread to the south.

Today fire personnel will continue to monitor the fire activity, but due to safety purposes there will not be any direct attack on the fireline. Safety is the #1 priority for all incidents. Due to the many safety concerns—which include a lack of escape routes, no nearby accessible safety zone, predicted weather conditions, steep terrain, dense, heavy timber and snags in and around the fire area, and active fire behavior—the decision was made that no firefighters will be placed on the fireline at this time.

There is a Red Flag Warning over the fire area today until midnight on Wednesday for gusty winds and low relative humidity levels. Today, temperatures could reach the mid-80s and relative humidity levels could dip to a minimum of 12% with gusty southwest winds at 10-20 mph.

No structures are threatened and no evacuations are in effect at this time. There is a public meeting scheduled for tonight at 5 p.m. at Hooper Park in Lincoln.

**Closures:** For public safety due to the fire activity, below is a list of closures in the area:

- **Arrastra/Porcupine Basin Trail #482:** entire trail
- **Trail #488:** entire trail
- **Dry Creek/Meadow Creek Trail #483:** from the beginning in T15N, R10W, Section 17 to Southern Shore of Meadow Lake in T16N, R9W, Section 18

**Fire danger level:** High

**More information:** Visit Inciweb at [www.inciweb.org](http://www.inciweb.org) or call Kathy Bushnell at 406-422-7164

